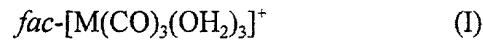


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to novel aminocarboxylate ligands that are suitable for complexing with a radionuclide, and are useful as therapeutic agents and as imaging agents for diagnostic purposes. In accordance with the present invention, a method of preparing a compound of formula



wherein M is Mn, ^{99m}Tc , ^{186}Re or ^{188}Re ,

involves reacting a metal in permethylate form with carbon monoxide and stannous ion. The compound of formula (I) can be reacted with a ligand L_x to form a compound of the formula



wherein M is as defined above, L_x is a monodentate or multidentate ligand or a mixture of these ligands, and n is a charge of the ligand L_x increased with one + charge. The invention also is directed to novel compounds, and kits for carrying out the disclosed methods.